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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)

Note verbale dated 3 April 2018 from the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) and has the honour to refer to resolutions 2371 (2017), 2375 (2017) and 2397 (2017) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In that connection, and pursuant to paragraph 18 of resolution 2371 (2017), paragraph 19 of resolution 2375 (2017) and paragraph 17 of resolution 2397 (2017), concerning the submission of implementation reports and on the concrete measures taken in order to implement effectively the provisions of these resolutions, the Colombian State would like to provide the following information:

In accordance with the above-mentioned paragraphs, and taking into account the commitment of Colombia to the international instruments and principles relating to disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, the Government has communicated the provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions to the competent institutions and has requested that they take the measures required to implement them.

As at 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia has published more than 18 press releases strongly condemning the nuclear tests and ballistic missile launches conducted by North Korea.

The Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has led measures to disseminate the obligations arising from the above-mentioned resolutions in an effort to ensure effective implementation of the sanctions. To that end, meetings have been held at the highest level with the national migration authority Migración Colombia, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, the Intelligence and Financial Analysis Unit and the Directorate of National Taxes and Customs, among other entities. In addition, internal workshops have been held on best practices for sanctions implementation, which were jointly organized with external partners such as the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States.

Article 81 of the Colombian Constitution prohibits the manufacture, importation, possession or use of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, and the entry of nuclear or toxic waste into the country. Consequently, in Colombia, the

proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is an offence under sections 334,358,359, 362, 363, 367 and 374 of the Criminal Code (Act No. 599 of 2000).

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism issued Circular No. 7 on 12 February 2018, in order to make users, Ministry officials and the entities that participate in the "one-stop-shop" for foreign trade aware of the bans and restrictions established in the relevant Security Council resolutions. Similarly, the Directorate of National Taxes and Customs of Colombia has been using its risk profiling systems to implement the necessary selectivity measures for foreign trade transactions involving the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The provisions of the relevant resolutions have been communicated to all departments of the Colombian customs authority. In addition, the provisions of Decree No. 390 of 2016 include the implementation of the bans and restrictions on trade with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as contained in articles 182, 276, 391 and 468. The Decree also establishes a risk assessment system to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing, under articles 45, 50, 53, 493, 526 and 542.

On 30 November 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, the Intelligence and Financial Analysis Unit, the Superintendence of Finance and the Attorney-General's Office signed an inter-agency cooperation agreement for the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions, including those relating to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The agreement establishes the procedure for imparting the relevant precautionary measures in order to ensure the freezing of funds and/or assets in the event that those funds and/or assets are held by a natural or legal person designated by the United Nations Security Council in the resolutions relating to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Superintendence of Finance of Colombia issued external circular No. 055 of 2016, which includes, in paragraph 6 of chapter IV, title IV, first part, a provision on freezing and prohibition of use of funds or other assets of individuals and entities designated by the Security Council who are associated with the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The migration and aviation authorities of Colombia have been taking the necessary measures to prevent designated persons from entering or transiting through Colombia. The measures include dissemination of the lists to concessionaires and port managers, as well as to the various airlines operating in the country. The migration authority in Colombia has included in its "Platinum" database relevant warnings concerning designated individuals who are subject to a travel ban. The database is linked to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) database and to the Colombian alien registration and information system.

The Colombian Maritime Directorate has been disseminating the resolutions to harbourmasters and inspectors to ensure implementation of the relevant provisions on maritime matters.

Thus, Colombia has been taking the steps required to implement the provisions of the resolutions, including those relating to embargoes on arms and related materiel, as well as the provisions aimed at preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the emergence of proliferation networks. It has also disseminated all sanctions relating to interdiction and transportation, as well as those relating to bunkering services, asset freezing, the disposal of seized assets, financial measures and travel bans.

Furthermore, the Government has disseminated to Colombian institutions the sanctions in the areas of specialized teaching and training, and scientific and technical cooperation, as well as the bans and restrictions on trade with the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea. Lastly, it has disseminated other bans contained in the resolutions relating to statues, new helicopters, vessels, luxury goods and all obligations arising from the resolutions in this area.

For Colombia, implementation of the Security Council resolutions on this subject is a matter of utmost importance, in line with the Colombian State's unwavering commitment to disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as well as to international peace and security.